12. The intraocular lens of claim 1, wherein said edge extends around the circumferential perimeter of said lens body.

13. An intraocular lens for implantation in the capsular bag of the eye following extracapsular cataract extraction, comprising:

a lens body comprising a convex posterior surface having an optic region and an anterior surface extending to a circumferential edge region projecting posteriorly and terminating in a plane, said circumferential edge region being outside said optic region and said convex posterior surface projecting posteriorly beyond said plane of said circumferential edge region; and

haptics attached to said lens body for positioning said lens body in the capsular bag of the eye, wherein said convex posterior surface is adapted to be implanted in direct apposition with the posterior capsular membrane, thereby stretching and deforming the posterior capsular membrane into conformity with said convex posterior surface to improve visual acuity and to create an annular space between the posterior capsular membrane and said circumferential edge region to facilitate any laser surgery subsequently required of the posterior capsular membrane.

14. The intraocular lens of claim 13, wherein said convex posterior surface has a fixed radius of curvature and said anterior surface has a predetermined shape that determines the optical power of said lens body.

15. The intraocular lens of claim 14, wherein said anterior surface is concave.

16. The intraocular lens of claim 14, wherein said anterior surface is planar.

17. The intraocular lens of claim 14, wherein said anterior surface is convex.

18. The intraocular lens of claim 14, wherein said haptics are adapted to be positioned inside the capsular bag to put the capsular bag in circumferential tension and to bias said lens body posteriorly into contact with the posterior capsular membrane.

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